



# Climate Change Planning and Healthy Communities in Snohomish County



**HEALTHY COMMUNITIES BY DESIGN FOR  
ALL AGES CONFERENCE**

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2009**



# Healthy Communities . . .



- **Are accessible, full service communities**
  - Residents meet daily needs within their communities (mixed use) or without using a car (good transit links)
- **Promote physical activity and interaction**
  - Recreation space, walkable streets, bicycle lanes/paths, etc.
- **Provide access to healthy food choices**
  - Farmers markets, grocery stores, etc.
- **Minimize health hazards**
  - Reduced pollution, crime, unsafe traffic conditions, etc.



# Expected Impacts of Climate Change



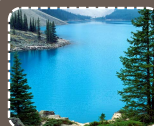
**Increased  
Temperature**

**Changes in  
precipitation**

**Sea level rise**



**Species & Ecosystems**



**Water Resources**



**Coastal Areas**



**Health**



**Agriculture**



**Forests**



# Snohomish County Sustainable Climate & Energy Initiative

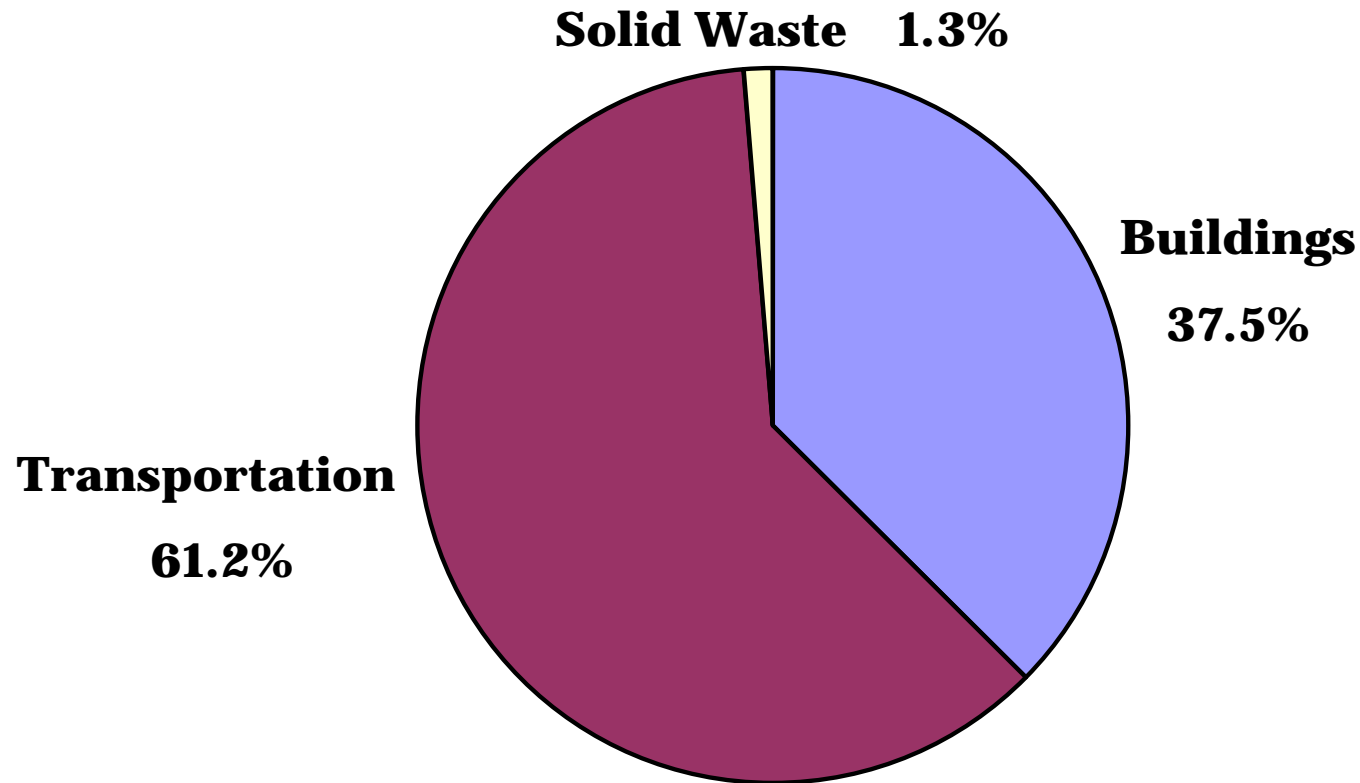
ICLEI –  
*Local Governments  
for Sustainability*



## The CCP Milestone Process



# Projected 2020 Emissions





# Green Ribbon Climate Task Force



- Recommendations to reduce emissions based on four focus areas:
  - Healthy Lifestyles and Livable Communities
  - Energy Conservation and Innovation
  - Green Economy
  - Natural Resources

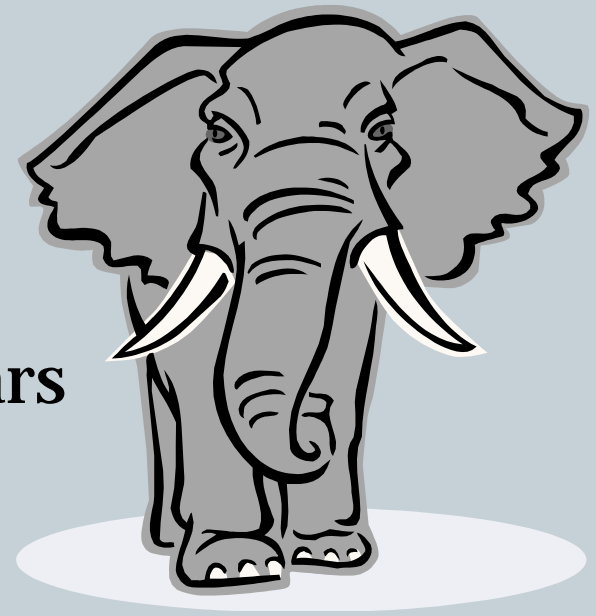
The screenshot displays the Snohomish County Sustainable website. The header includes the Snohomish County logo and the text 'Sustainable Snohomish County'. A search bar with the placeholder 'Enter Keywords' and a 'Go' button is located in the top right. The navigation menu includes 'Home', 'About The County', 'Services A-Z', 'County A-Z', 'Links', 'Popular Services', and 'Print Version'. The main content area features a 'Sustainability Menu' with a 'County Links' dropdown and a 'Sustainability' link. Below this is a 'Shortcuts' section with links to 'Related Maps', 'Related Links', 'Related Services', and 'Related Media'. A 'Subscribe Services' section with a 'Subscribe to this page' link is also present. The central focus is the 'Sustainable Climate & Energy Initiative' section, which includes a photo of Executive Reardon and the text: 'Executive Reardon Calls for Innovative Sustainability. We must invest in our future, directly tackling the environmental challenges facing this county. In the short-term, we're inviting our citizens, cities, businesses and public agencies to partner...'. To the right, a green box titled 'Green Ribbon Climate Task Force' contains the text: 'The Green Ribbon Climate Task Force, appointed by Executive Reardon, will draft options to reduce Snohomish County's GHG emissions while finding new ways to improve the county's overall environmental health.'



# What we Found:



- **Transportation is the elephant in the room**
  - ✦ Largest source of emissions
  - ✦ No easy solutions
- We must get people out of their cars



# How to We Get from Here . . .







# ... to Here?

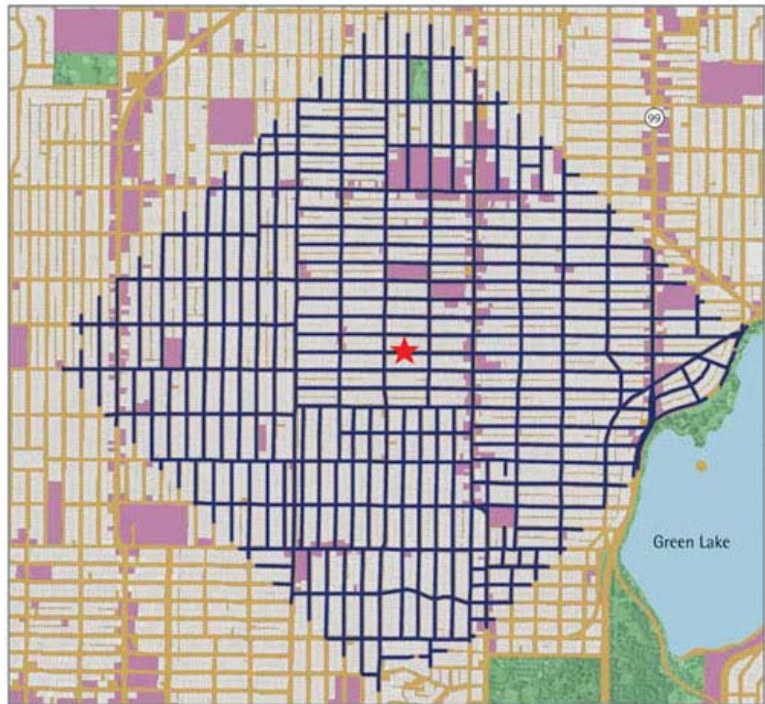


# Transportation Recommendations



- **Public transit**
- **Incentives for alternative commutes**
- **Compact, transit-oriented, pedestrian-friendly, mixed use development**
- **Bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure**
- **Road pricing**
- **Manage parking**
- **More fuel efficient vehicles and cleaner fuels**

# Development Patterns Influence How We Move Around



- ★ Starting point
- Places within a one-mile walk
- Commercial destinations
- Parks

0 0.25 0.5  
Miles

Sightline  
INSTITUTE



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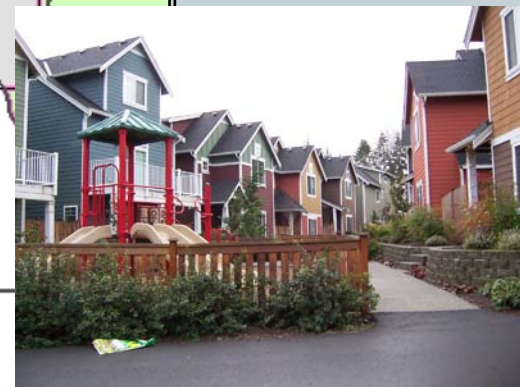
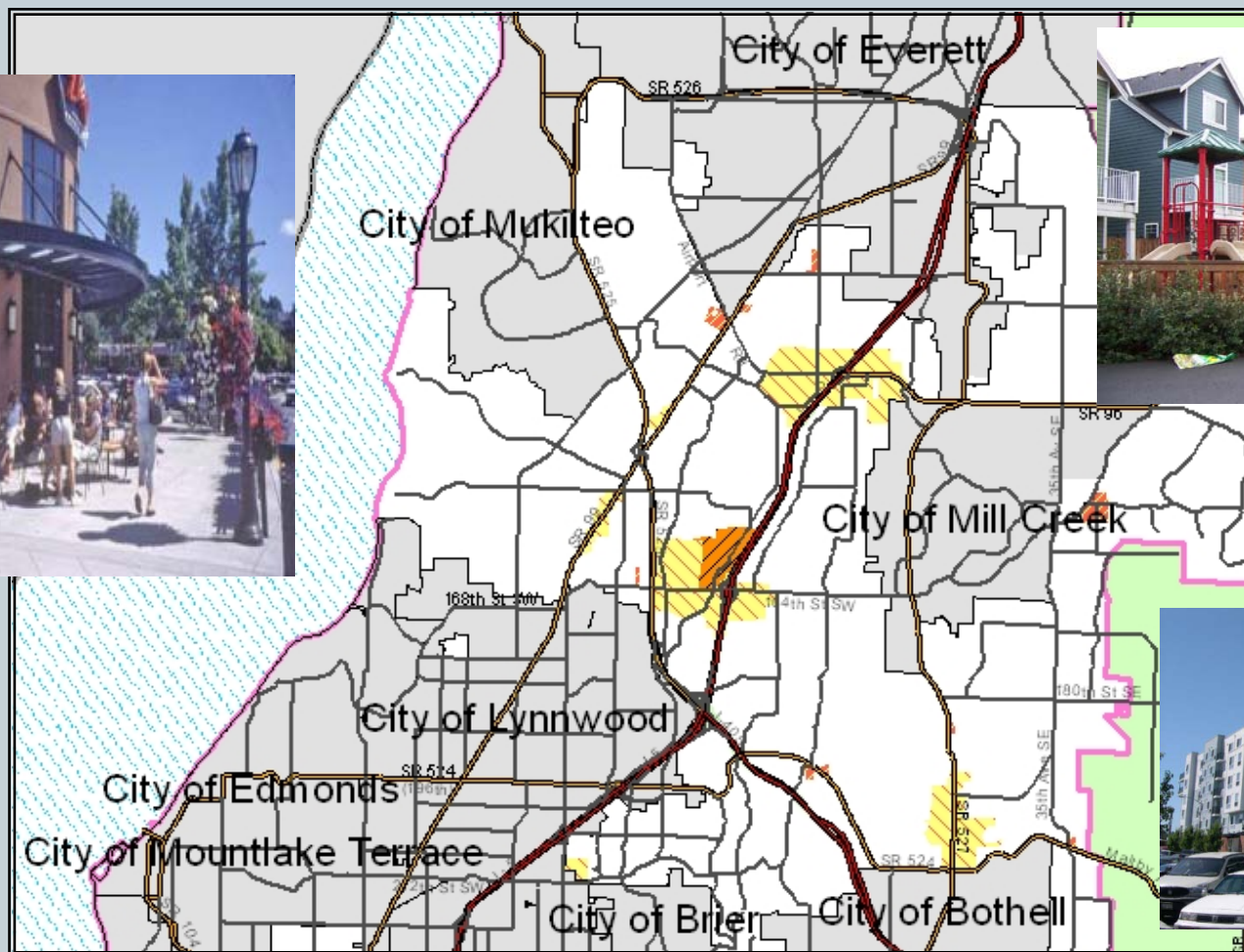
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Miles

Sightline  
INSTITUTE





# Urban Centers Program





# Commute Trip Reduction & Transportation Demand Management





# Buildings and Energy







# Additional Activities and Recommendations

- Buy local
- Strengthen our local agriculture
- Biodiesel and Green Fleets Initiative
- Innovative, green community development



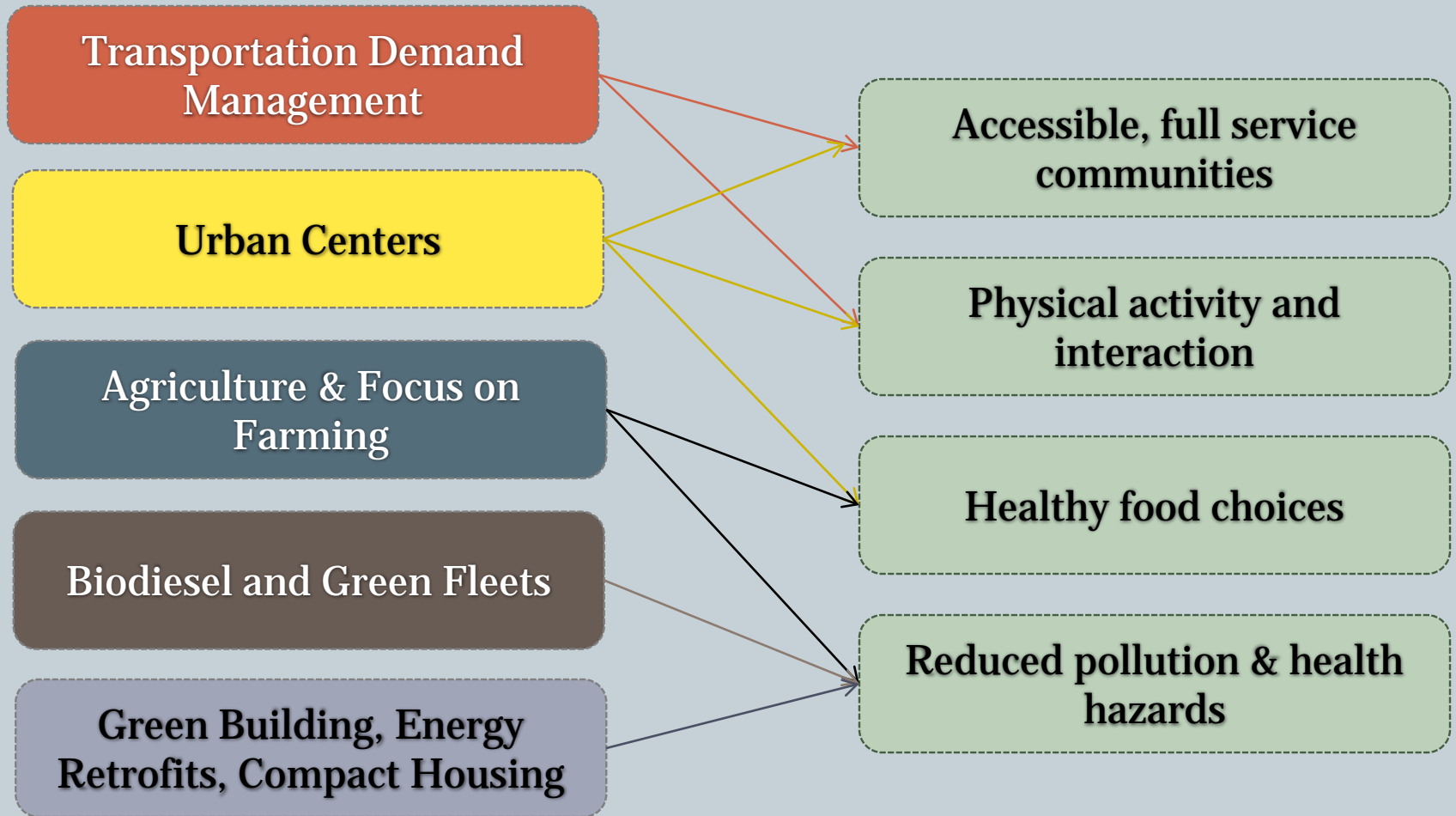
*Introducing a New Vision  
for Green Communities*



Sustainable Snohomish County



# Linkages with Healthy Communities





# Questions?



**THANK YOU**

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